520.43276X00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Y. MOMOI, et al

Serial No.: 10/716,485

Filed: November 20, 2003

For: POSITION MEASURING APPARATUS

Group: 3732

Examiner:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 22, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicant(s) is/are submitting herewith a copy of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

To the extent that, the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449, are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language translation of the document.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.43276X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin Kraus
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Form PTO-1449 Equivalent

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Atty. Docket No. 520.43276X00
Serial No. 10/716,485
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U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner Initials | Document No. | Date | Name | Class Subclass | Filing Date If Approp. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Foreign Patent Documents

| Document No. | Date | Country | Class Subclass | Translation Yes No |
|---|---|---|---|---|

Other Documents (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

"DEVELOPMENT OF THE LASER GUIDANCE SYSTEM", Orthopedic Surgery of Osaka University, Japan, Feb. 18, 2003, and English Abstract thereof

"Computer-Assisted Spinal Surgery Using Anatomy-Based Registration", by Stéphane Lavallée, et al., pp 425-449, ORTHOPAEDICS

"A novel laser guidance system to present the information of navigation directly in the surgical field", by N. Sugano, et al., CAOS 2002 (The Second Annual Conference of the International Society for Computer Associated Orthopaedic Surgery) ('02.06.19);

"Computer Aided Pedicle Screw Placement Using A Novel Laser Guidance System", by Y. Tamura, et al, CAOS 2002 (The Second Annual Conference of the International Society for Computer Associated Orthopaedic Surgery) ('02.06.19)

"Clinical application of a laser guidance system with dual laser beam ryas as augumented reality of surgical navigation", by N. Nugano, et al, CARS 2002 (Computer Associated Radiology and Surgery, 16th$^{th}$ International Congress and Exhibition) ('02.06.26)

"A Novel Laser Guidance System for Alignment of Linear Surgical Tools: Its Principles and Performance Evaluation as a Man-Machine System", by T. Sasama, et al., MICCAI 2002 (5$^{th}$ International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention) ('02.09.25)

"Development of a Laser Guidance System using an Intersection line of Dual Laser Beam Plane", by Y. MOMOI, et al., Conference of Japan Computer Surgery Association, Nov. 2002.

Examiner Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.